



NORTH CAROLINA ARMY RETIREE COUNCIL

Post Office Box 70029 Fort Bragg, North Carolina 28307-5000
Telephone 1-800-535-6067 or 1-910-396-8591

19 June 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Minutes of the North Carolina Army Retiree Council Meeting 10 June 2006

1. The quarterly meeting of the North Carolina Army Retiree Council (NCARC) was called to order by Co-Chairman SGM(R) Law at 1000 hours, 10 June 2006 at the Ft. Bragg Officers' Club.

MEMBERS PRESENT

COL(R) Don Latella, Co-Chairman
SGM(R) Larry Law, Co-Chairman
COL(R) Rudy Baker
COL(R) Donald A. Doll Jr. (II)
COL(R) Donald J. Goulet (V)
COL(R) George F. Heberer (IV)
COL(R) Edward Mennona (VII)
LTC(R) Thomas E. Parsons (VIII)
SGM(R) Frank M. Foronda (VII)
1SG(R) Robert H. Ward (II)
MSG(R) Moses L. Best
SFC(R) Salvatore J. Campochiaro
SFC(R) Richard A. Clemmons (IV)
SSG(R) Frances J. Crawford (V)
Mr. John Bell - IRSO
() indicates regional area

OTHERS PRESENT

COL(P) Al Aycock, Garrison Cdr
Ms. Nan Sanders, Installation AG
Mr. Daid Dingwell, AAFES

SFC(R) Herb St George, Hope Mills, NC

2. Mr. Bell gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. SGM(R) Law recognized visitors and guests and reviewed the material in the packet.
4. COL(P) Aycock presented an AV supported briefing on the future of Ft. Bragg. He covered everything from the newly constructed modular brigade compound to the eventual arrival of two new headquarters to Ft. Bragg (FORSCOM, and Reserve Command). Among the figures he gave were that when all is said and done there will be a total of 50 stars representing 32 general officers on Ft. Bragg. He also told the Council that this year's 4th of July celebration will be another extravaganza. He announced that this was his last meeting and he was PCSing to Korea at the end of the month. SGM(R) Law presented him with a gift certificate for Chris's Steak House on behalf of the Council.

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5. Ms. Sanders briefed that the move to the new location for RSO should be take place within the next 6 to 8 weeks. The new location should enhance the services available to retirees. She indicated that there would be some changes with RAD. She indicated that the web would be the primary source of disseminating information.

6. Mr. Bell introduced the new deputy RSO, MSG(R) Darnell Edwards; he has replaced Ms. Carol Anderson who retired after 43 years of combined active duty and civil service years with the Army. The activities at RSO have increased quite a bit due to active duty deaths, increased number of surviving family members etc. He stated that plans are to follow the same format for RAD this year as in the past few years (golf tournament and dinner on Friday and medical, legal, ID cards etc. services on Saturday). He indicated that due to some funding problems notification to retirees about RAD might differ from how it was done in the past. The Retirees' Bulletin that has been published in the past will probably not be published this year; rather, the information will be published on the web. The way in which the reservations for the dinner and the golf tournament will differ. SGM(R) Law expressed that the majority of the retirees that need to be contacted are NOT computer savvy. His concern is that there seems to be a perception that the 'alpha and omega' lies with the computer and the web. There was quite a discussion concerning notification of retirees. Several comments from council members were that most web pages are not user friendly.

7. Mr. Dingwell briefed on the improvements taking place in the two PX locations on Ft. Bragg. He mentioned the 'buddy list' which is a computer email system which spreads the word about upcoming sales etc. COL(P) Aycock mentioned that Ft. Bragg has received authorization to bring a sit-down commercial restaurant on post - Chili's will be opening in the building that was the Yntema Club on Smoke Bomb Hill.

8. Regional Reports:

Region I – Western – No Report

Region II – Catawba & Northwest – COL(R) Doll reported the 3rd Annual Military Appreciation Day will be 24 June. The SF Parachute Team will be making 4 jumps during the activities. It is also a fund raiser with funds going to support of deployed troops. The Military Appreciation Day it's for: the past (retirees); the present (active duty serving at local ROTC and JROTC programs); and the future (those young folks who participate in ROTC, Boy Scouts CAP etc.) In addition to the parachute jumps there will be some static displays such as an Apache helicopter. The goal is to raise somewhere around \$10K - \$20K. The support goes to the deployed troops from two NG units. Anticipated attendance is 2,000/3000. A mayor of Boone gives opening remarks, and congresswoman Fox will lead the moment of silence for the troops.

Region III – Southern Piedmont – No report

Region IV – Triad – COL(R) Heberer and SFC(R) Clemmons reported that things have been rather quiet in their area. This, hopefully, may be an indication that the word reference CRSC etc. is getting out and questions are being answered.

Region V- Cape Fear – COL(R) Goulet passed on compliments for the folks in the ID Card facility. He identified one soldier in particular, who took that extra step to make things happen. SSG(R) Crawford reminded the Council of possible problems with the recent theft of the VA personal information. She stated that she was going to retire from the position as the VFW Service Officer at the Fayetteville VA Medical Center. She reminded the Council of the activities in Dunn at the Lee Museum this weekend.

Region VI – Triangle – No report

Region VII – Southern – COL(R) Mennona reported that he had already received his letter from VA alerting him to the identity theft possibilities. He stated that he has become a member of the Camp Lejeune Retiree Council, which is a multi-service group. A Retiree Day is being planned at Camp Lejeune on 23 September. He mentioned the 'Wounded Warrior' program that Camp Lejeune has and asked if there was anything similar to that here. COL(P) Aycock responded with a run-down of how the program works here at Ft. Bragg, and that Ft. Bragg has been the model program for other Army installations to follow. SGM(R) Foronda graphically expressed the type of punishment he recommended for the person who was responsible for the theft of the VA records.

Region VIII – Coastal Plains - LTC(R) Parsons reported that there is gathering support for the efforts of a retired general officer 'Vern Lewis' to have veterans render the hand salute when giving honors to the US Flag, National Anthem etc, rather than placing the hand over the heart. He stated that veterans' organization in his area are adopting and supporting this.

9. Co-Chairmen Comments: COL(R) Latella commented that the age of electronics has arrived and that if one is not into the 'computer age' they will be left behind..

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SGM(R) Law stated that a request has been sent to MWR to run a discount program at MWR activities during the entire week of RAD. He, once again, stated his concern that information pertaining to RAD and other subject areas might not reach the bulk of the older generation of retirees.

ONCE AGAIN, WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO GET AN UPDATED LIST OF EMAIL ADDRESSES. REQUEST COUNCIL MEMBERS WHO HAVE EMAIL ADDRESSES PLEASE FORWARD THEIR ADDRESS TO SGM(R) LAW
abnlarry@att.net

The next meeting will be in conjunction with RAD and is tentatively scheduled for 1400 hours Friday 15 September.

10. The meeting adjourned at 1135 hours.

Lawrence L. Law

Lawrence L. Law
Sergeant Major, USA Retired
Co-Chairman

Donald Latella

Donald Latella
Colonel, USA Retired
Co-Chairman

DISTRIBUTION:

1 ea Council Member
Cdr, XVIII Abn Corps & Ft. Bragg
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